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Approved For Release 2003/12/23 : CIA-RDP33-02415A000300150021-8

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Secretary of Defense

SUBJECT: Reconnaissance over Communist China

1. This is in confirmation of our telephone conversation late Friday afternoon, 22 June, and to advise you of further developments regarding photographic reconnaissance of the Communist Chinese buildup.

2. On Friday afternoon, 22 June, I convened the United States Intelligence Board to brief the members on the decisions and discussions with the President at the meeting the previous evening. I informed them of your desires and instructions regarding the [redacted] and requested that they give full and complete support to [redacted] reconnaissance against priority targets in Communist China as rapidly as weather permits.

3. Actions have been taken which will insure continuing capability to provide timely reconnaissance by the U-2 over Communist China, North Vietnam, and Cuba--all areas of critical interest and for which political approval exists.

4. To take maximum advantage of your foresighted deployment of U-2s (J-57 engines) [redacted] CIA Operations, in cooperation with the United States Air Force, has initiated retraining [redacted] for use of these planes over North Vietnam. In this connection you will want to know that retraining [redacted] has been phased in such a way that the capability to cover Communist China and North Vietnam simultaneously, should weather permit, has not been sacrificed. While the weather continues bad in these areas of interest a break in the weather over North Vietnam on last Friday permitted us to obtain coverage of most of the southern portion

This document contains information referring [redacted]

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of that country--the first coverage of North Vietnam since 5 May. [redacted] 25X1
the U-2s (J-57) over China is appreciated. The practicability of that measure is being examined.

3. A U-2 (J-75) has been deployed from Edwards Air Force Base [redacted] Three U-2s will then be available there to concentrate exclusively on Communist China.

John A. McCone
Director

C/SRS/OSA/DDR:JQReber:bs (25 June 1962)

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